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Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 02410

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, UNSC, CY, TU
SUBJECT: UNFICYP: DENKTASH PLEDGES LOW-KEY STATEMENT
AT SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE

1. SUMMARY: "TFSC PRESIDENT" DENKTASH TOLD AMB. MCHENRY THAT DESPITE ANTICIPATED PROVOCATIVE STATEMENTS FROM GREEK CYPRIOTS DURING SC DEBATE TO RENEW UNFICYP MANDATE, HE WOULD NOT RESPOND IN KIND. ON THE CONTRARY, A VITUPERATIVE RESPONSE ON HIS PART WOULD PLAY INTO GOC HANDS. DENKTASH EXPECTED HIS STATEMENT BEFORE THE COUNCIL MIGHT USEFULLY BE CIRCULATED TO U.S. CONGRESS. END SUMMARY.

2. DENKTASH, WHO HAS NOW MET WITH NEARLY ALL SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBERS, REQUESTED MEETING WITH AMB. MCHENRY FOR JUNE 12. DENKTASH REVIEWED HIGHLIGHTS OF CYPRUS PROBLEM FROM TURKISH CYPRIOT VIEWPOINT INCLUDING PROBLEMS WITH CURRENCY, BUDGET, PASSPORTS, ECONOMIC DISCRIMINATION, TOURISM, ETC. HE COMPLAINED THAT KYPRIANOU FALSELY CLAIMS HE REPRESENTS THE ENTIRE ISLAND;
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MOREOVER, KYPRIANOU REFUSES TO MEET WITH THE ELECTED LEADER OF THE TURKISH CYPRIOT COMMUNITY. DENKTASH SAID KYPRIANOU TOLD ONE NON-ALIGNED PERM REP THAT CYPRUS PROBLEM IS MATTER OF PATIENCE;
EVENTUALLY TURKISH CYPRIOTS, AND TURKEY AS LONG AS EMBARGO IS IN FORCE, WILL "COLLAPSE" UNDER INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC PRESSURE.

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3. DENKTASH UNDERSCORED TURKISH CYPRIOT ADHERENCE TO SETTLEMENT THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS AND REMARKED THAT VAROSHA GESTURE INDICATED TURKISH FLEXIBILITY. HE SAID KYPRIANOU IS NOW MAKING VAROSHA PROPOSAL A PRECONDITION FOR RECONVENING OF INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS. GOVERNMENT OF CYPRUS, HE SAID, IS CONCENTRATING ITS EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST TURKEY.

4. WITH REGARD TO THE UPCOMING SC DEBATE ON UNFICYP MANDATE, DENKTASH SAID HE WOULD TRY NOT TO REPLY TO ANY GREEK CYPRIOT ATTACKS. HE WISHED TO STATE HIS SIDE'S POSITION AND ITS DESIRE TO NEGOTIATE AND TO PUT ON RECORD ITS POSTURE OF FLEXIBILITY. DENKTASH ADDED HE HOPED THAT HIS STATEMENT MIGHT BE DISTRIBUTED SUBSEQUENTLY TO MEMBERS OF U.S. CONGRESS. DENKTASH OBSERVED THAT THE PAST SC RESOLUTION EXTENDING UNFICYP MANDATE WAS NOT SATISFACTORY: CERTAIN ASPECTS ARE OBVIOUSLY OBSOLETE. HOWEVER, TURKISH SIDE HAS CONSENTED TO UPDATING THE FORMER RESOLUTION IN ORDER NOT TO CAUSE TENSIONS BEFORE THE NEGOTIATIONS ARE RESUMED.

5. IN RESPONSE TO MCHENRY'S QUESTION, DENKTASH ESTIMATED TURKISH TROOP STENGTH ON CYPRUS AT ABOUT 17,000.
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HE SAID THIS NUMBER WOULD DROP AS THE SITUATION EVOLVED THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS. DENKTASH CLAIMED THAT THERE ARE CUBAN SOLDIERS ON THE ISLAND, TRAINING GREEK CYPRIOTS IN THE USE OF RUSSIAN ARMAMENTS. CUBAN TRAINING INCLUDES TAKING GREEK CYPRIOTS TO TRAINING CAMPS IN LEBANON SUPERVISED BY CUBANS. HE REFERRED TO DR. VASSOS LYSSARIDES AS THE INSTIGATOR OF RUSSION/CUBAN MILITARY INVOLVEMENT IN CYPRUS.

6. IN CLOSING, DENKTASH SAID HE PLANNED TO LEAVE NEW YORK ON JUNE 17 OR 18. HE REMARKED LAUGHINGLY THAT HE OUTSTAYED "SPIROS" (KYPRIANOU). WE AGREED TO STAY IN TOUCH DURING NEXT FEW DAYS. (NOTE: NEITHER FURTHER CONSULTATIONS NOR SC MEETING HAS BEEN SCHEDULED AS YET. GOC DRAFT RESOLUTION HAS STILL NOT APPEARED. FM ROLANDIS HAS STAYED ON IN NEW YORK TO REPRESENT THE GOC AT THE SC DEBATE ON UNFICYP RENEWAL.) YOUNG

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